

GBG The Gambling Business Group

Gambling Business Group Conference Call Held on Wednesday 6th March 2019 at 11.00am.

In attendance:-

First Name	Last Name	Company
Nigel	Kelly	Astra Games
Nigel	McLaughlin	Bell Fruit Games
Joanne	Craig	Blueprint
Steve	Brownlow	Blueprint Machines
Peter	Hannibal	GBG
Amanda	Fry	GBG
Tim	Shield	John Gaunt
Wayne	Forster	Moto
Amanda	Kiernan	Praesepe Plc
Lee	Morton	SG Gaming
Tez	Field	William Hill
Susanna	Fitzgerald	

1. **Welcome and Name check**

PH welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. **Previous Meeting Notes**

Point 2 - Due to the creation of a new Age Restricted Sales Expert Group, The Gambling Expert Group Meeting on 25th February has been rescheduled for Tuesday 12th March 2019 .

Point 7 – since the last meeting the GC have reissued the letter from 2014 which does not help legislation as it refers to the Parallel Games issue. BACTA have meetings today and tomorrow to discuss their thoughts on a way forward as there are still some manufacturers and operators who continue testing these products.

The letter is slightly different to the 2014 original penned by Matthew Hill, however the new wording for concern is in the 'summary' paragraph where it states that such games will not be compatible with the Regulations.

So the implication is that if the Industry continues to put these high stake feature games out there then they will review the regulations as necessary to prohibit them. The danger in this is that there is a risk we may lose gamble features altogether.

The Gambling Commission are already giving the industry too much bad press and there is the fear that the Gambling Industry will all be regarded as 'not to be trusted'. We need common sense to prevail.

3. **Current Consultations**

a. **Call for evidence re Cat B Machines – closes May 16th**

This consultation closes on 16th May 2019 and is related to the protection of those getting into difficulty with machine gaming. The questions are aimed at operators and consumers and we need to be careful how we respond. GBG will be making a response separately to the questions posed.

b. **Call for evidence re gambling on line with credit cards.**

This consultation also closes on 16th May. No comments from the meeting.

c. **Proposed changes to LCCP re customer interaction, ADR and website blocking software.**

Consultation closes on May 9th. GBG are planning to submit a response to this.

d. **Reduce Gambling Related Harms – closed awaiting response**

This has now closed with submissions made and we are awaiting a response. The deadline for creating the new strategy is at the end of March and there is a concern that time is short and there is no communication from the Gambling Commission.

4. **Tom Watson's Proposal for an eGambling Act**

Tom Watson has announced that (if labour get into power) he is going to recommend scrapping the Gambling Act 2005 and replacing it with new digital age, fit for purpose legislation. This may be an opportunity for the industry to come up with a vision for how a new Gambling Act should look as we were hugely involved when it happened before.

SF left the call at 1125

5. **Discuss member suggestion that the GBG should create an industry data sharing standard;**

The MSG members have suggested that we should create a set of standards that include agreement on what data and information should (and shouldn't) be shared. To include the following suggestions;

- a. Sessional Information
- b. Spend Data and statistics
- c. Player numbers

- d. Frequency of activity
- e. Demographic and profiles
- f. What else?

This comes from a consultation from the new national responsible strategy where the Gambling Commission have suggested an independent centre for analysing data/behaviours. We should take a lead on this and agree how to share data/information. If we don't do it ourselves, someone else will define things for us which may not produce the best outcome. This might be difficult to achieve without effective dialogue. PH to consider adding it to the agenda for the Neil McArthur meeting. The call thought that this was generally a good idea.

6. **Letter to Neil McArthur**

Nick Harding has written to Neil McArthur asking for a meeting to share with him the industry's current concerns regarding their reducing expertise and difficult communications. It was agreed that these matters should be directed to him in the first instance.

7. **RGSB, Gamble Aware and their recent responses**

The meeting discussed the recent RGSB response regarding their views on RET and the national responsibly. There were very critical about the lack of progress with the last strategy and appeared to pin the blame elsewhere. The RGSB as we know it may well be coming to an end.

8. **Any Other Business**

The new Website is up and running and AF will send out an email with the details about how to access the secure documents on there and welcomes any comments.

9. **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is on

**Wednesday 15th May 2019 at 11.00 am at
Ince Gordon Dadds, Aldgate Tower, Leman Street, London E1 8QN**

Meeting finished at 1130.